1994 has been that the Government may examine the need for a holistic national policy based on the goals of family well-being. The detailed recommendations of the National Seminar which emphasize on formulation of family focussed programmes/policies have been calculated to the Ministries/Departments for examination and implementation.

Jobs provided to SC/ST/OBC

1672. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the number of candidates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes provided jobs in various categories during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement on Reservations for Women

1673. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the National Convention on Reservations held in Delhi, the Minister of Welfare observed that benefits of reservation in public employment and educational institution should be extended to women; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and Government's decision, if any taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal to provide reservation for women in service is under consideration in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Observations made by Chairman National Human Rights Commission on Plight of Women

1674. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the observation made by the National Human Rights Commission that helpless men and women deprived of company and home, live a miserable life in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that old age homes provide refuge but the aged do not find care, comfort and affection in these homes;

(c) whether Government propose to take some measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARMA KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are Old Age Homes set up by the voluntary organisations with the assistance from Central Government. Some State Governments have also set up Old Age Homes. The degree of care, comfort and affection in these Homes may vary.

(c) and (d) The Government is already implementing a Scheme for the Welfare of the Aged. The Scheme envisages setting up of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Medical Mobile Units for the care, comfort and support of the aged. The Government is also taking measures for strengthening the family as a social unit. Government had drawn up a National Action Programme for observing the International Year of the Family 1994.

The following main activities were undertaken during the year :

(i) Organising a national Seminar on the International Year of the Family on the theme "Enhancing the role of the Familie as an Agency for Social and Economic Development".

(ii) Creation of awareness regarding need for strengthening the family system through newspaper advertisements, posts and Seminars, meetings, etc.

(iii) Issue of Commemorative Postage Stamp and Commemorative Coin on the International Year of the Family.